

Tuesday, February 7, 2012

**COVENANT RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THE SYNOD OF THE SUN
AND
THE PRESBYTERIAN MO-RANCH ASSEMBLY**

I. The Legal Institution

The Presbyterian Mo-Ranch Assembly (hereafter Mo-Ranch), Hunt, Texas is a non-profit corporation chartered by the State of Texas and governed by a Board of Trustees (hereafter Board). Since 1949, it has served the Presbyterian community, in covenant relationship with the Synod of the Sun, the Presbyterian Church (USA) (hereafter the Synod), by providing a conference center, a church camp, and a meeting place for religious education and worship.

As stated in its charter: The purpose for which Mo-Ranch is formed includes the establishment and maintenance of a center of religious worship, and the advancement of the cause of Christian education by providing leadership, program, and facilities for the conferences, religious worship, lectures and Bible study.

II. The Mission of Presbyterian Mo-Ranch Assembly

The mission of Mo-Ranch is to foster growth in God through Jesus Christ by sharing our unique living, learning Christian environment.

III. The Relationship of Presbyterian Mo-Ranch Assembly and the Synod of the Sun

This covenant is an agreement between the Synod and Mo-Ranch to affirm a present and historic relationship in which there is mutuality of purpose. To fulfill its role in its relation to the Synod, Mo-Ranch operates under the sole direction of the Board, the members of which are elected by the Board and confirmed by the Synod. The Board is responsible for Mo-Ranch and, as Trustees, the members of the Board carry forward and care for the "trust" on behalf of the Synod. In the event of dissolution of Mo-Ranch, the residue of assets would revert to the Synod or its successor(s) to be used for like purpose.

IV. The Promise of Mo-Ranch to the Synod

- A. The Board covenants to offer staff leadership and physical facilities for appropriate training events, programs, seminars, and a host of related activities, including at least two conferences each year specifically designed to meet the needs of the Church. The staff of Mo-Ranch will be sensitive to the needs of the members of

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- Presbyterian congregations of all sizes and presbyteries of the Synod as well as to the Synod as an entity of ministry.
- B. The Board will provide financial oversight and planning to keep Mo-Ranch fiscally healthy and its facilities in repair.
 - C. The Board and staff of Mo-Ranch will inform themselves about the mission of the Synod.
 - D. The Board will operate according to its Bylaws and shall submit newly elected board members to the Synod for its confirmation.
 - E. Mo-Ranch, through its Board and President, will strive to provide programming and leadership to uphold the historic and present focus of the Reformed tradition.
 - F. Mo-Ranch will work in cooperation and collaboration with other institutions of the Synod.

V. The Promise of the Synod to Mo-Ranch

- A. The Synod provides Mo-Ranch an affiliation with the Presbyterian Church (USA) and recognizes Mo-Ranch as an institution related to the Synod through this covenant. The Synod encourages the full use of Mo-Ranch by Presbyterian individuals and churches. The Synod recognizes Mo-Ranch as one of its Presbyterian institutions where ecumenical programs with multiple denominations and/or interfaith endeavors may take place.
- B. The Synod will give Mo-Ranch first consideration as a site for its programs each year and will encourage presbyteries and congregations also to give Mo-Ranch first consideration for their programs and conferences.
- C. The Synod will collaborate with Mo-Ranch in planning and sponsoring at least two conferences each year designed to meet needs of the Church.
- D. The Synod staff and leaders will support and interpret the mission of Mo-Ranch by being well informed about programs and policies.

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- E. The Synod will encourage the Synod/Presbytery Staff Cabinet members regularly to visit Mo-Ranch.
- F. In its confirmation process, the Synod will act only on newly elected trustees submitted by the Board of Trustees of Mo-Ranch.
- G. The Synod will support Mo-Ranch through inclusion of financial support in its annual budget and will encourage all Presbyteries and Presbyterian churches to participate in the financial support of Mo-Ranch.

VI. Review

The Synod and Mo-Ranch will renew this covenant every four years and review this covenant at the request of either party as needed. The review team will consist of three members from the Board and three members from the Synod

Date of Enactment

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Moderator
Synod of the Sun

Chairperson
Presbyterian Mo-Ranch
Assembly

Covenant Review Team

Mo-Ranch: Julie MacLemore, Charles Sullivan, Jeanne West, staff Dick Powell,

Synod: Mary Ellen Summerlin, Malcolm Hall, Tom Koger, staff Gerry Tyer,